

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 DOTE-00 /090 W

-----026911 010913Z /10

R 312008Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7279

INFO PANCANAL

USSOUTHCOM

UNCLAS PANAMA 03823

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, EWWT, PN

SUBJECT: TREATY IMPLEMENTATION - GOP PLANNING

1. EMBASSY WILL BE REPORTING SEPARATELY AND AT GREATER LENGTH ON THE CONSIDERABLE BODY OF IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING MATERIAL WHICH WAS SURFACED BY GOP REPRESENTATIVES AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF BUSINESS EXECUTIVES (CADE-78) MAY 24-26, WHOSE THEME WAS THE DEVELOPMENT BY PANAMA OF THE CANAL AND CANAL ZONE.

2. HOWEVER, WE WOULD CALL PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE ADDRESS TO THE CONFERENCE BY ARQ. EDWIN FABREGA, DIRECTOR OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ELECTRIC UTILITY IRHE, GOP NEGOTIATOR ON LANDS AND WATERS AND CANAL ADMINISTRATION, AND ONE OF THE MOST SENIOR GOP OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN TREATY IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING. HIS REMARKS ARE CONTAINED IN FBIS/PANAMA PA 271256Y, FOUR TAKES.

3. EMBASSY WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO SUMMARIZE FABREGA'S STATEMENT, BUT STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT ANY USG OFFICIAL WITH INTEREST IN IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW CANAL TREATIES READ IT IN FULL. IN OUR VIEW, IT WAS INTENDED AS A

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STRAIGHTFORWARD, NON-POLITICAL FACTUAL STATEMENT OF THE STATUS OF GOP IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING EFFORTS. AS SUCH, READERS WILL NOTE CERTAIN OF THE GOP PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS AND/OR PRECONCEPTIONS, E.G. THAT THE CANAL COMMISSION WILL IN FACT BE SOMETHING APPROACHING A BILATERAL AGENCY, RATHER THAN STRICTLY A USG AGENCY, WHILE THE ACTUAL RESPONSIBLE USG AGENCY FOR CANAL OPERATION WILL BE

DEFENSE OR TRANSPORTATION. JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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